

## SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 19 of the specification as follows:

Examples of genes conferring male sterility include those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,861,709, U.S. Patent No. 3,710,511, U.S. Patent No. 4,654,465, U.S. Patent No 5,625,132, and U.S. Patent No. 4,727,219, each of the disclosures of which are specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. A particularly useful type of male sterility gene is one which can be induced by exposure to a chemical agent, for example, a herbicide—~~U.S. Patent Ser. No. 08/927,368, filed September 11, 1997, the disclosure of which is specifically incorporated herein by reference in its entirety~~. Both inducible and non-inducible male sterility genes can increase the efficiency with which hybrids are made, in that they eliminate the need to physically emasculate the corn plant used as a female in a given cross.